

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO <h2 style="text-align: center; margin: 10px 0;">INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</h2> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">(Use as many sheets as necessary)</p>	<h3 style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">Complete if Known</h3> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Application Number</td> <td>10/553,311</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Filing Date</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>First Named Inventor</td> <td>Matter et al</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Art Unit</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Examiner Name</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Attorney Docket Number</td> <td>1-17130</td> </tr> </table>	Application Number	10/553,311	Filing Date		First Named Inventor	Matter et al	Art Unit		Examiner Name		Attorney Docket Number	1-17130
Application Number	10/553,311												
Filing Date													
First Named Inventor	Matter et al												
Art Unit													
Examiner Name													
Attorney Docket Number	1-17130												
Sheet 1 of 1													

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number <small>Number-Kind Code² (if known)</small>	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		US- 2,929,248 B1	03-22-1960	Sprenkle	
		US- 3,838,598 B1	10-01-1974	Tompkins	
		US- 3,840,051 B1	10-08-1974	Akashi et al	
		US- 5,341,848 B1	08-30-1994	Laws	
		US- 5,750,892 B1	05-12-1998	Huang et al	
		US- 5,918,279 B1	06-29-1999	Hecht et al	
		US- 5,942,683 B1	08-24-1999	Aoi et al	
		US- 6,145,544 B1	11-14-2000	Laharpe et al	
		US- 6,963,809 B2	11-08-2005	Matter et al	corrsp WO 01/96819
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document <small>Country Code³ "Number" "Kind Code" (if known)</small>	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		GB 1 469 648 A	04-06-1977	Tokico Ltd.		
		JP 62112014 A	05-23-1987	Kiichiro		
		WO 01/96819 A1	12-20-2001	Matter et al	corrsp US6963809	x

Examiner Signature	/Harshad Patel/	Date Considered	04/21/2008
-----------------------	-----------------	--------------------	------------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2

ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /HP/